



**NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
WESTERN REGION
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**



NOVEMBER 6, 2002

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

NWS Mourns the Loss of Stephen Bailey: WFO Missoula and the National Weather Service are very saddened by the passing of Stephen Bailey on Friday, November 1, 2002. Stephen died in a house fire. He was a Hydrometeorological Technician at Missoula since March 5, 1995. Stephen started with the government in 1971, serving seven years in the United States Navy. This service included active duty in Vietnam. Stephen received his weather training in the Navy and put these skills to work in April 1984, when he accepted a temporary position as a Meteorological Technician with the National Weather Service. This proved to be an interesting start to his career as his duty station was on top of Stampede Pass in Washington State. Stephen often reminisced about his experiences battling the elements at this remote site. Stephen accepted a permanent Meteorological Technician position with the NWS at Dubuque, Iowa, in August 1985. He then transferred to Winnemucca, Nevada, in 1989, and finally to Missoula six years later.

Stephen was an active member of the National Weather Service Employees Organization (NWSEO). He served as the regional chair for Western Region in the early to mid 1990s. Stephen actively worked with bargaining unit employees and management to ensure a smooth transition of the National Weather Service's modernization, and he was always very concerned about the welfare of NWS employees.

Stephen loved taking his boat out on the lakes of Montana and Idaho in the summer months and tinkering with his cars year round.

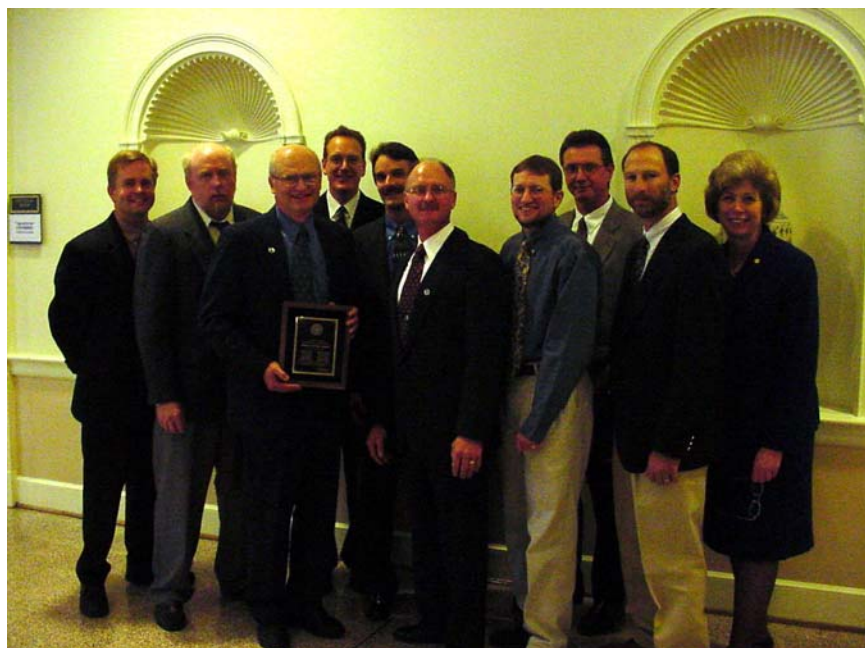
Stephen is survived by his 14 year old son Christopher of Winnemucca, Nevada, and his brother Darrell and mother, Marie, of Florida. Stephen's ashes will be scattered on top of Stampede Pass in the spring.

Jack Kelly Visits WFO Las Vegas:

On October 28, General Jack Kelly and Regional Director Vickie Nadolski visited WFO Las Vegas. They toured the forecast office, received an office in-brief from the Las Vegas MIC, and spent time visiting with the staff. General Kelly attended an all-hands station meeting, where he led an insightful discussion about dealing with change. That evening, both Jack and Vickie joined the Las Vegas staff for an informal dinner at a local restaurant.

**DEPUTY REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

Three NWS Western Region offices received Department of Commerce Bronze Awards during a ceremony on October 22. Two Bronze Awards were presented to NWS staff for the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. The WFO Salt Lake City received a group award as well as members of the Weather Support Group. Both groups were recognized for their outstanding support during the Olympic Games and for developing the first public-private-academic partnership to support the Olympics.



(L to R) Tim Barker, WFO Boise; Andy Edman, SSD WRH; Jim Campbell, DRD WRH; Kevin Schrab, SSD WRH (detailed to Silver Spring, MD); Joel Cline, WFO Raleigh; Tom Niziol, WFO Buffalo; Randy Graham, WFO Grand Rapids; Jeff Walker, SOD WRH; Larry Dunn, WFO Salt Lake City; and Marilu Trainor, NOAA PA.



WFO Billings MIC Keith Meier accepts Bronze Award for his office and congratulations from Vickie Nadolski, Regional Director Western Region, for providing life-saving warnings and enhanced public service during the prolonged severe weather episode of the Summer of 2001.



HIC Robert Hartman of CNRFC also accepts a Bronze Award for his office and congratulations from Vickie Nadolski, Regional Director Western Region, for implementation of the National Weather Service River Forecast System across the Pacific Northwest Columbia River Basin was the Northwest River Forecast Center.



Michael Bruce, DAPM at WFO Phoenix, accepts a Bronze Award on behalf of WFO Phoenix and congratulations from Vickie Nadolski, Regional Director Western Region, for developing a partnership with the private sector to collect critical data to improve weather forecasts with wide-ranging economic benefits.

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION

STATEMENT OF THE WEEK: This week's statement of the week is an outlook written by Mike Vojtesak of WFO Eureka. Mike used the WSW format to issue an outlook to the public of the first significant rain event of the season. By using this format, one can clearly separate the "forecast" portion of the outlook from the discussion, and provide easy-to-read details of the expected storm system. Other excellent outlooks were issued at this time by WFOs Medford, San Francisco Bay Area, Las Vegas, Reno, and Sacramento. Great Job by all involved!

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WINTER STORM OUTLOOK
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE EUREKA CA
330 PM PST MON NOV 4 2002

...FIRST MAJOR STORM OF THE SEASON TO ARRIVE LATE WEDNESDAY
BRINGING SIGNIFICANT RAIN AND STRONG WINDS TO NORTHWEST
CALIFORNIA...

.A POWERFUL JET STREAM AND STRONG LOW FORMING IN THE GULF OF
ALASKA WILL DRAMATICALLY CHANGE THE WEATHER PATTERN ACROSS
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. A WET AND WINDY WEATHER PATTERN WILL DEVELOP
BY WEDNESDAY NIGHT...AND CONTINUE THROUGH FRIDAY. ON
FRIDAY...EXPECT SNOW LEVELS TO FALL TO 4500 FEET...AND SEAS HEIGHTS TO
RISE ABOVE 20 FEET.

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REDWOOD COAST-MENDOCINO COAST-NORTH COAST INTERIOR-UPPER TRINITY
RIVER-INTERIOR MENDOCINO COUNTY-
INCLUDING THE CITIES OF...UKIAH...WILLITS...FORT BRAGG...
LAYTONVILLE...COVELO...SHELTER COVE...GARBERVILLE...
HONEYDEW... WEAVERVILLE...EUREKA...WILLOW CREEK...HOOPA... ORICK
ORLEANS AND CRESCENT CITY
330 PM PST MON NOV 4 2002

...RAIN AND WIND TO DEVELOP ON WEDNESDAY AND CONTINUE INTO FRIDAY...

A WARM FRONT WILL APPROACH THE NORTH COAST WEDNESDAY...AND SIGNAL
THE APPROACH OF THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT RAIN EPISODE ACROSS THE REGION
SINCE LAST SPRING. RAIN SHOULD START ACROSS DEL NORTE COUNTY
DURING THE MORNING...AND SPREAD ACROSS THE REST OF THE FORECAST
AREA BY WEDNESDAY NIGHT. A STRONG COLD FRONT WILL FOLLOW ON
THURSDAY...BRINGING SOUTH WIND GUSTS OF 30 MPH OR MORE...AHEAD OF
THE FRONT AND ADDITIONAL RAINFALL ACCUMULATIONS. THE COLDEST AIR
ALOFT WILL ARRIVE ON FRIDAY...BRINGING STRONG WESTERLY WINDS AND
HEAVY SURF CONDITIONS TO THE COAST...AND LOWERING SNOW LEVELS...ON
AVERAGE...TO 4500 FEET ACROSS THE INTERIOR MOUNTAIN RANGES.

STAY TUNED TO NOAA WEATHER RADIO AND OTHER LOCAL MEDIA FOR
FURTHER DETAILS OR UPDATES.

FOR ADDITIONAL WEATHER INFORMATION, CHECK OUR WEB SITE AT

HTTP://WWW.WRH.NOAA.GOV/EUREKA

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HYDROLOGY AND CLIMATE SERVICES DIVISION

CPC ENSO Briefings for WR: The second of two WR ENSO briefings will take place in Sacramento on November 8, 2002. WFO Sacramento and WFO San Francisco will co-host the briefing with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services. Guest speakers will include John Janowiak from CPC, Kelly Redmond from the Western Region Climate Center, and Mark Ghilarducci from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

This is a reminder that CPC will be providing a teleconference briefing for all Western Region offices on the current El Nino. The same briefing will be offered two times. The first briefing will be on November 6, 2002 at 1:00 p.m. MST, and the second will be on November 13, 2002 at 9:30 a.m. MST. Currently, every office has signed up for one of these offerings and has been provided the logistics for the call. Please remember to dial in on the day you have signed up for, as lines are limited. Contact Andrea Bair if you have questions. John Janowiak from CPC has put together a WR ENSO conference call Web site for the offices to look over before the briefings. You can find this Web site at:

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/janowiak/web_wr.html

SCIENTIFIC SERVICES DIVISION

COMET Satellite Training: The COMET Program is pleased to announce the release of the Web module, "GOES Channel Selection." This module is an adaptation and update of Chapter 6: Channel Selection from the CD-ROM, "Satellite Meteorology for the Operational Forecaster: Using the New GOES Imager." You can find this on the MetEd Web site at <http://meted.ucar.edu/satmet/goeschan/index.htm>. The module, about 60 minutes in length, describes each of the five GOES imager channels, including spectral characteristics, properties, and application examples using audio, graphics, and satellite imagery. Also included are the updated specifications for the 6.7 micrometer (water vapor) channel and information on the new 13.3 micrometer channel scheduled to become operational in 2004.

University of Utah CIRP Workshop: The Ninth Annual Workshop on Weather Prediction in the Intermountain West was held on Thursday, November 7, 2002 at the University of Utah. The annual workshop focused on fire weather, road weather, snow and avalanche studies, drought and the hydrological cycle in the West, and local forecast problems. Additional information is available on the Department of Meteorology Web page at www.met.utah.edu.

SYSTEMS OPERATIONS DIVISION

Burns Butte, Oregon NWR: WR RMS Joe Lachacz traveled to Burns Butte, Oregon, to help implement a solution to a complex Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) problem with the NWR transmitter system. Joe tested, aligned, and applied filtering equipment to the system. The Burns Butte NWR is fully operational with no RFI reported.

RMS Involved in Auto Accident: Western Region RMS George Montenegro (PSR) was involved in a car accident on his way home from work on October 24, 2002. George was sitting in his vehicle at a stop light when he was hit from behind in a multiple car accident. George was taken to the hospital where he was treated for a broken foot and a concussion. Presently, George is recuperating at home after a difficult foot surgery where five pins were placed in his foot. He is expected to make a good recovery considering the difficult circumstances.

AWIPS: Most WR offices have scheduled their AWIPS Release 5.2.2 upgrade. Our goal is for all offices to upgrade to 5.2.2 before the end of December. Maintenance Release 5.2.2.1 was just released and can be installed as soon as the 5.2.2 installation is completed.

In July, a Federal Emergency Management Agency Task Force Meeting with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the State of Arizona, and the National Weather Service (NWS) was held to review flood mitigation efforts in the burn area from the June 2002 Rodeo-Chediski Fire that burned half a million acres in Arizona (the largest wild fire in Arizona's history). As a result of this and subsequent meetings, the Flagstaff Weather Forecast Office (WFO) and the Western Region of the NWS took the action to increase NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) coverage from the Show Low transmitter into the burn area and tailor a broadcast for the Show Low area. Specifically, two communities on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation were facing imminent flood dangers due to the recent fires in Arizona. The Show Low transmitter was upgraded to increase the coverage and WFO Flagstaff will soon begin broadcasting a specific program for Show Low. The NWS is now able to provide more timely and specific flood warnings for those most in danger. These efforts were a unique partnership between Federal, state, local and Native American officials; as well as, the private sector.